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INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/23/2018
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [KGIC](#) [KNNP](#) [JO](#) [IN](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: GLOBAL INITIATIVE WELCOME DEMARCHE DELIVERED,
INDIA SORTING OUT LEAD AGENCY

REF: A. SECSTATE 69613
[1](#)B. NEW DELHI 1636

Classified By: Political Counselor Ted Osius for Reasons 1.4 (B and D)

[1](#)1. (SBU) PolOff delivered Ref A demarche and associated documents welcoming India as a new partner in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GI) to Ministry of External Affairs Disarmament and International Security division director Gaddam Dharmendra on July 9. (Dharmendra had postponed the meeting several times following the terrorist attack against the Indian Embassy in Kabul, in which a colleague was killed.) Russian Federation counterparts were unable to participate in the demarche, but signaled their support to DISA.

[1](#)2. (C) Dharmendra expressed India's happiness at finally clearing its own internal bureaucratic tangle to endorse the GI principles. (In a previous meeting, Dharmendra had revealed that a political decision to join the GI had been made by the Cabinet several months ago, but that confusion within the bureaucracy led to a lack of follow-up.) He said India looked forward to reviewing the work plan, calendar, and associated documents, and hoped to play an active role in the GI, including possibly proposing or hosting activities in the near future.

[1](#)3. (C) But first, Dharmendra said, the Indian government would consider whether to designate MEA DISA or the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) as the lead agency for GI coordination and activities. Dharmendra suspected it would be DISA, but that he would have to wait for a decision before designating India's official point of contact. He suggested a decision would be made in the coming days.

4, (SBU) Embassy New Delhi's designated GI Coordinating Officer (GICO) -- provided via email on June 30 -- is as follows:

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